

What's new at Shanna Schmidt Numismatics Inc.

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Newsletter #74:

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Hi everyone! I hope you all had a nice week. Wednesday was a sad day for the Schmidt family when Germany failed to move forward in the World Cup. As I understand Germany has made it out of the group stage in every World Cup since 1938 when they were out early on. In 1950 they were not allowed to participate and the 1942 and 1946 were cancelled because of World War II. The lesson learned is that you should never fully expect anything to happen just because it did in the past. In any case, enough of *Fussball*, let's talk about coins!

Solidus Premium Auction 31 (June 30)

Solidus, based in Munich, Germany, has an electronic auction closing on June 30th with 272 coins. The auction contains a small but very interesting section of Celtic coins and some notable rarities in each section. The sale is small enough to go through quickly so I urge you to check it out. I may bid in the auction so if you need help get in touch soon so I can register should you need help. Check it out on Sixbid or Numisbids. The buyer's premium is quite high at 23% so definitely something one should be aware of.

Naumann Auction 67 (July 1)

Numismatik Naumann based in Vienna is holding their 67th auction on July 1 with 1,172 coins. With so many coins on offer there is a vast variety to choose from. The bigger sections in this sale are Greek, Roman Imperial and Byzantine. In my experience the estimates are rather low but things can get quite competitive the day of so don't assume that because something seems inexpensive that it will be. The buyer's premium is 14.9% but I noticed that there is an insurance fee of 1% added on so total BP is 15.9%. This auction can be viewed on both Sixbid or Numisbids.

Cayón Auctions (July 3)

The Cayón auction on July 3 has a lovely section of 248 Iberian denarii. There are many interesting styles that I have not seen so often. The entire auction has 1,004 coins but the first section is what was most enticing for me. The buyer's premium for this live auction is 20%.

Bertolami E Auction 60 – Numismatic Literature (July 10)

For those looking for a specific numismatic publication you might check out Bertolami's E Auction 60 which has 831 books on offer. There is a 20% buyer's premium for this auction.



Coin of the Week

<https://www.shannaschmidt.com/roman-empire/egypt-alexandria-hadrian-117-138-ad-dated-ry-18-ad-133134?rq=re1060>

EGYPT, Alexandria. Hadrian. 117–138 AD. Dated RY 18 (AD 133/134)

Æ Drachm, 28.85g (35mm, 12h). VT KAIC TPAIAN • [AΔPIA]NOC CEB, bareheaded bust left, slight drapery / Isis Pharia, holding billowing sail, sailing right before the Pharos of Alexandria, which is surmounted by a statue and two Tritons; L IH (date) above

Pedigree: From the Giovanni Maria Staffieri Collection, purchased from Renzo Canavesi, Sagno, 1996. Ex Renzo Canavesi Collection (Sagno); Dr. Piero Beretta Collection (Milan); Giovanni Dattari Collection, no. 7719

Price: \$11,500

The coinage of Alexandria is rich in the meshing of two histories; the Egyptian and Roman. Egypt was a place of power in the time of the Pharaohs, legendary and awe-inspiring when one considers the Kingdoms that existed so long ago. Once Alexander the Great conquered the great city and upon his death the Ptolemies became the new government things changed. Under Ptolemy I the library of Alexandria came into existence. This library was considered the

best in the known world. After a few impactful interactions with the Romans, the Egyptian culture, while still rich, was married to the Roman way of life.

The reverse of this coin shows a beautiful image of Isis Pharia holding a billowing sail and in front the Pharos of Alexandria. Isis Pharia was an Egyptian goddess but her virtues spread throughout the Greco-Roman world. She was a mother, wife and matron of the arts and magic. She was friends with the downtrodden as well as the wealthy. Everyone was dear to her. The Romans credited her with the invention of the sail. According to Pliny, Isis Pharia was from Pharos which had a bridge that connected her to Alexandria. This coin shows the Lighthouse of Alexandria just beyond her. The Lighthouse was one of the seven wonders of the world and was suggested to be built during the reign of Ptolemy I but completed by his son Ptolemy II in the 3rd century BC. It survived hundreds of years but was thought be destroyed sometime in the 1400's.

These large bronze coins help to celebrate the existence of the Alexandria's Lighthouse and its mystical connection with the goddess. It is a lovely piece that the emperor Hadrian was paying tribute.

References: Köln 1123; Dattari (Savio) 7719 (this coin); K&G 32.587; RPC III 5896/11 (this coin, illustrated on pl. 292); Emmett 1002.18 (R3); Staffieri, Alexandria In Nummis 72 (this coin).

Grade: EF, dark brown surfaces with touches of green. Wonderful artistic bust of Hadrian, and very rare compared to the typical laureate, draped, and cuirassed bust to the right

re1060

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If you are interested in this coin please click the link above or email me at shanna@shannaschmidt.com

Until next week!
Shanna

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